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PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT FOCUS

POLK COUNTY 4-H PROJECT OVERVIEW

The 4-H photography project is designed to help you explore the world of photography. From learning about camera equipment to capturing great images and sharing what you have learned with others, you are bound to love photography!

Here's what you can do!

- Discover how to take fascinating photographs.
- Learn about photography as an art, a science and a communication tool.
- Observe and enjoy your surroundings in a photographic world.
- Explore photography as a hobby or profession.



New! Introducing the 2019 revision of 4-H's best-selling Photography curriculum. Having access to a camera (phone or DSLR) is essential, as well as deciding how and where to store the photos taken during the project. These books will give youth the tools to succeed at and enjoy their photography journey.

Photography Basics Book 1

Next Level Photography Book 2

Mastering Photography Book 3

Photography Basics, is a beginning level book for the study of photography.

Activities cover four main areas:

- Equipment,
- Lighting,
- Composition, and
- Skill Building.

Topics include:

- flash,
- black & white photography,
- and taking selfies!

Next Level Photography, is an intermediate level book for the study of photography.

Activities build on the four main areas from Book 1:

- Equipment,
- Lighting,
- Composition, and
- Skill Building.

Topics include:

- rule of thirds
- selecting a lens
- and panorama!

Mastering Photography, is an advanced level book for the serious study of photography.

Activities cover four main areas from Book 1 and 2:

- Equipment,
- Lighting,
- Composition, and
- Skill Building.

Topics include:

- smartphone exposure tips
- Low light challenges
- and studio portraits!

So what's new in the 2019 edition? Technology! The books have been updated to reflect changing technology, such as moving from film to digital photography. Cell phones, a common camera for many people, are featured. Other enhancements include digital photo editing as well as online photo storage and sharing.

Take Photography Further

Here are some other opportunities to explore photography:

- Check out books at the library or visit online sources to learn more about technique, about composition, about copyright and privacy laws, and about the history and future of photography
- Create a portfolio of your best photographs (Take note of what other professionals have done)
- Enter a photography contest or exhibit at an open class exhibition
- Enter the Nebraska 4-H Photography Showcase <https://4h.unl.edu/photography-showcase>
- Present a demonstration on photography at your county speech and demonstration contest
- Consider taking an exhibit, a piece of your project learning to the fair for judging and to show what you have learned throughout the year. It might get selected to go to the Nebraska State Fair
- Volunteer to take photographs of a family reunion or special event
- Take photographs of historical sites in your community for an exhibit or scrapbook
- Participate in the Polk County Special Photography Project (theme changes yearly)

Resources

4-H Resources

National 4-H Photography Curriculum along with additional activities to supplement the photography manuals. Materials can be found along with purchasing manuals here: <https://4-h.org/parents/curriculum/photography/>

- Book 1 - Photography Basics
- Book 2 - Next Level Photography
- Book 3 - Mastering Photography

Other 4-H Resources

[How to Prepare Photographs for Exhibit in 4-H at Fair](#) -NE Extension in Lancaster County Resource (will be updated with 2020 changes)

[2020 State Fairbook - Photography Section](#)

[2020 Polk County Fairbook](#) - Click on Photography section for:

- Rules and regulations
- Data tag templates-downloadable with instructions
- Definition of displays and prints

Outside Resources

[Nikon Camera School Online](#) - free classes through April 30

[How to shoot on an iPhone](#) - Free online apple camera resources

Quality matters when developing prints. Quality photo developing sites I have used:

- <https://www.mpix.com/>
- <https://www.nationsphotoab.com/>

[More resources for printing through PC Magazine.](#)